



*Sister City Association of Bloomington-Normal*

Vladimir  
Canterbury

# *Communicator*

Fall 2016

Newsletter Editor Margaret Ann Hayden@ilstu.edu

## **Presidents Letter** by Elaine Cousins

As I reflect back on the last year and look ahead to the next, I'm very pleased with the extent to which our Vladimir Canterbury Sister City Association is becoming a part of the fabric of life in Bloomington-Normal and the extent to which citizen diplomacy reaches so many. In August, I had the pleasure of speaking to a group of residents at Luther Oaks and while I was telling them about the visit of Russian Agriculturalists who visited us for a week in June, I learned just how impactful the visit was for a local family. One of our tour stops was at the soil testing lab in Cropsey. It was one of the highlights of the tour for the group which included several soil scientists. What I learned from the Luther Oaks resident was that the soil testing lab was owned by one of her relatives and their whole family has now engaged in email conversation with at least one of the delegates. It seems that the distance between Vladimir, Russia and Cropsey, Illinois has indeed become smaller as a result of our association's work. In September, I'll be speaking to a group of teachers at a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting and sharing with them the idea of a joint project for their students and students in Vladimir. Tatyana Semenova, a teacher and sister city member in Vladimir has suggested some interesting topics for collaboration among students. I hope the Bloomington-Normal teachers will be encouraged to follow through on the idea and we'll launch a new generation of young citizen diplomats. Some people have questioned whether we should have a sister city relationship with a Russian city when there are differences between our two countries. I always respond, as I'm sure you do too, that when tensions are higher, our sister city relationship is even more important. Information about next year's Open World programs should be available soon and we are eager to see if there is a topic that we can apply for. The Open World program is



funded by the US Congress and invites young professionals (under 30) to come to the United States, learn about our government, and have a home stay experience in a U.S. city with a professionally-oriented tour. In recent years we have hosted Open World groups in the areas of Agriculture, Special Education, Libraries, City Administration, and Law.

Our relationships with International programs at Illinois State University have grown even stronger in the past few years. In addition to the Kinesiology and Nursing exchanges in recent years, ISU is exploring expanding its programs with Vladimir State University with programs for Education and Agriculture students. President Dietz visited Vladimir State University last Spring with an ISU Kinesiology student group and visited Vladimir Medical College with an ISU nursing student group. He looks forward to more exchanges between ISU and these two universities.

## **Open World Agriculture Visitors**

This past June, five agronomy faculty from Vladimir State University and a facilitator visited the twin cities for nine days. During the visit they stayed in local homes and some of you meet them at the potluck social held in their honor. They visited twenty-three agriculture sites in and around McLean County and learned about American agriculture. We learned that they do not use GMO in their food production and love garage sales. As a result of this visit, two faculty from the Department of Agriculture at ISU will be visiting Vladimir in spring 2017. We are excited for this future exchange and to see what develops.

## Mennonite College of Nursing, Transcultural Nursing Student Exchange

Illinois State University Mennonite College of Nursing will host four visitors from Vladimir Medical College this fall 2016. Our translator, Nina Bedova, will bring with her one VMC faculty member and two nursing students. Our guests will arrive on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> and will depart to go back to Vladimir on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Our visitors will stay in host homes that are currently being determined. We will arrange tours in the Mennonite College of Nursing Simulation Lab, tours of regional hospitals and clinics, provide nursing classes for them to participate in, as well as provide some cultural activities such as participating in the ISU Homecoming festivities. We look forward to welcoming them once again this year. It is always a pleasure and a great learning experience for everyone.

## VCSCA Archives transferred to McLean County Museum of History

Since the beginning of the local search for a Soviet Union Sister City, the history of the Vladimir/Canterbury Sister City Association has been kept in large binders, now numbering nine. Additional archive material, such as Association minutes and newsletters, medical and educational exchanges, and Open World grants are also included in separate binders. The collection includes books, VHS tapes, DVDs, and posters relating to both Vladimir and Canterbury.

The Association Historian, Ann B. White, announced at the September 6, 2016 board meeting that all the archives, with the exception of the current volume nine, have been turned over to the McLean County Museum of History. This material will be available for those wanting to learn more about the Association and for research purposes.

Bill Kemp, the museum librarian, has requested the assistance of two volunteers to help catalogue this collection.

This would require working a few hours periodically over a semester to get the job done. There would be minimal training and volunteers would need to have typing skill for labels and some lists.

If you would be interested in helping with this project, lease contact Ann B. White at 309-452- 5647.



## Displays at Both City Halls

The Association reminds everyone that both of our local city halls now have Vladimir and Canterbury cases displaying items from each sister city. Orlyn Edge, Judie Bey, and Ann B. White completed the displays earlier this summer. The Normal displays are located on the fourth floor of the City Hall in Uptown Station. The Bloomington displays can be found just inside the lower level doors at City Hall.

## Exchange Student Update

**Anastasia Pavlova**, high school exchange student from 2011-2012, is now in her senior year of bachelor studies at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. In August she had an internship with the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the department of the Middle East and Northern Africa, specifically, in the unit of Israel and Palestine. Anastasia enjoyed seeing how everything works from the inside and participated in that process. She said it was quite an experience! Anastasia also recently participated in a conference dedicated to 25 years of renewal of Russian-Israeli relations.

**Lilia Iosilovich**, high school exchange student from 2008-2009, graduated with her master's degree from Erasmus University in Rotterdam this summer. Currently, she is an intern with the Foundation of the Amsterdam Museums, a non-profit which assists with marketing and business development to all Amsterdam museums. Lilia is having a great time with her internship and will be will be searching for a full-time job in the cultural sector.

As a host mother, I am so proud of the accomplishments of my Russian daughters. Below is a picture of Lilia with her co-workers. She is in the front, right side of the photo. By Desiree Quizon-Colquitt



**Support Your Vladimir Canterbury Sister City Association and Enjoy an Illinois Symphony University Concert**  
**October 14 Opening Concert of the Season and Post-Concert Reception**

The Vladimir Canterbury Sister City Association will be a Community Partner of the Illinois Symphony Orchestra at the opening concert of the 2016-2017 season on October 14. The concert will feature a fabulous program of Russian masterworks with guest conductor Vladimir Kulenovic. Featured on the program are works by Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, and Rachmaninoff. To participate in the partnership and support the VCSCA, purchase your tickets by filling out the partnership ticket order form in this newsletter (page 5) and mailing your ticket request to Elaine Cousins (1 Alder Ct., Bloomington, IL 61704) with a check for your tickets. Your tickets will be available for pick up at the BCPA box office the day of the concert. The Illinois Symphony will donate to the VCSCA 50% of the proceeds of tickets sold via the partnership ticket order form. In addition, there will be a display in the BCPA lobby about our VCSCA programs.

After the concert there will be a reception in the BCPA ballroom with an opportunity to meet Maestro Kulenovic who is one of four candidates being considered for the position of music director for the Illinois Symphony. He is presently Music Director of the Lake Forest Symphony and was designated as "Chicagoan of the Year (2015) in Classical Music" by the Chicago Tribune. In addition, he is a staff conductor of the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the English National Opera as well as Resident Conductor of the Belgrade Philharmonic.

**Like us on Facebook**

**Web site address**

<http://www.vcsistercity.org>

**Are you interested hearing about our ISU – Kinesiology and Recreation Study Abroad in Vladimir, Russia?**

Please Join us on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 @ 6:00 pm in McCormick Hall, room 260 and find out about the incredible experiences of our Study Abroad – Russia 2016 group!

KNR students Caitlin Fortier, Kayleigh Price, Kevin Neylon and Travis Howe will share with you what they learned from their Study Abroad in Russia- what their best experiences were, things that both surprised them and greatly impacted them- both personally and professionally, and how this experience will impact them in both their personal and professional futures. They will also share their words of wisdom to future study abroad participants.

Also, you will hear from President and Mrs Dietz who joined our group in Vladimir. They will share some of their thoughts about this experience and the importance of Study Abroad.

Light refreshments will be served. (Russian chocolate!)

Please come to hear about Study Abroad – Russia!

Please contact Dr. Karen Dennis if you have any questions or would like more information.  
[kkdenni@ilstu.edu](mailto:kkdenni@ilstu.edu)

Parking is available in the South University Street Parking Garage. McCormick Hall is located just to the north of this parking garage.



## **RUSSIA COUNTRY OF SPORTS**

**VI International Sports Forum**  
Vladimir Region,  
October 10 – 13, 2016

Dr David Thomas and Dr Karen Dennis, faculty members in the School of Kinesiology & Recreation at Illinois State University and Board members of the Vladimir/Canterbury Sister Cities Association, have been invited to present at the VI International Sports Forum: Russia – Country of Sports. The conference will be held at Vladimir State University, Vladimir, Russia October 10-13. Dr. Thomas will give a plenary session presentation on the *Impact of Exercise and Sports on the Health of the American Population*, while Dr. Dennis will give a roundtable presentation on *Heart Rate Variability, Sport, and Health*.

The VI International Sports Forum “Russia – Country of Sports” is considered as the most representative sporting and business forum held in Russia. The Forum was established in 2009 by Decree of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, in order to determine priorities, key activities and development perspectives of the sports industry in Russia. The event is aimed to enhancement of competitiveness of Russian sports, creation of the effective sports industry and its integration into global sports community.

The Forum will gather around 3000 leading representatives from the sport movement and sports industry.

### **Forum Participants in 2016:**

Members of International Olympic Committee and National Olympic Committee  
Representatives of international and national sports federations and associations  
Government officials and politicians  
Heads of Russian regional sports offices  
Heads and managers of leading companies of the Russian sports industry (manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, consultants, etc.)  
Representatives of national sports clubs and schools  
Expert and academic community  
Famous athletes and sports stars  
Media representatives

The website for the forum is:

<http://www.sportforumrussia.ru/>

## **Sister City Annual Meeting Dinner and International Forum**

The Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Vladimir/Canterbury Sister City Association will be held in November in conjunction with the first William L White International Forum. Details of the November forum will be emailed to everyone.

The Annual Meeting will include a brief annual review of sister city activities and election of officers. Anyone wishing to serve on the board should express your interest by contacting Margaret Ann Hayden at 452.4687 or [mhayden@ilstu.edu](mailto:mhayden@ilstu.edu).

The White International Forum will feature an eminent speaker on an occasion that will honor Dr White posthumously. He was a long time supporter of international endeavors, one of the founders of our association, and a member of our board of directors for many years.

Anyone who wishes to be contacted about the meeting and forum may contact Orlyn Edge ([edge@ilstu.edu](mailto:edge@ilstu.edu), 452-3021

# ILLINOIS

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

### 2016-2017 Community Partner Ticket Order Form

#### The Vladimir Canterbury Sister City Association

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

	# of Tickets	Subtotal
<i>Illinois Symphony Orchestra Concerts at BCPA please indicate if main floor or balcony seating is preferred. Balcony and Main Floor seating available in all zones.</i>		
Zone 1 @ \$60 each		
Zone 2 @ \$40 each		
Zone 3 @ \$20 each		
Student Price @ \$5 each (No donation given back for student tickets)		
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>

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Reservation of tickets and payment due by **OCTOBER 8, 2016**

As a community partner, the VCSCA will receive 50% of the revenue for all non-student tickets purchased through the partnership (excluding box office fee of \$1.00 per ticket).

Make checks payable to the Illinois Symphony Orchestra and mail to:

Elaine Cousins  
1 Alder Ct  
Bloomington, IL 61704

Tickets may be picked up at the BCPA box office the day of the concert or during box office hours beginning October 12 2016.

*Thank you for supporting the Vladimir Canterbury Sister City Association and the Illinois Symphony Orchestra!*

**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Is Your Membership Up to Date? If you have not sent in your 2015 membership, please use the form below.

**MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	CHAUCER LEVEL / STUDENT	\$15- 39
<input type="checkbox"/>	TOLSTOY LEVEL / FRIEND	\$40 - 99
<input type="checkbox"/>	SHAKESPEARE LEVEL / PATRON	\$100 - 199
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHEKOV LEVEL / BENEFACCTOR	\$200 - 499
<input type="checkbox"/>	BOLSHOI LEVEL / CORPORATE	\$500 - 999
<input type="checkbox"/>	GOLDEN RING / LIFE MEMBER	\$1000

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed form with check payable to:

Vladimir/Canterbury Association  
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